

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending September 28, 1997

Issue: 30-97

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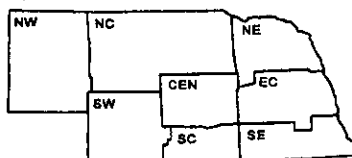
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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged from near normals to one to three degrees below normals. Precipitation ranged from six hundredths in the west to over four inches in the south central part of the State.

GENERAL

Harvest of fall crops and wheat seeding progressed at a slow pace last week due to widespread precipitation, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged over one inch in most parts of the State, however, western areas averaged under one inch. Rain received last week should aid germination of newly seeded wheat and alfalfa. Grasshopper population continued to be a concern in many areas. Producer activities included preparing equipment for harvest, silage cutting near completion, putting up hay, and moving grain to market.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 3% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 55% good, and 12% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 77% good to excellent, while 49% of the dryland corn was good to excellent. As of Sunday, 67% of acreage had matured, compared with 60% last year and 62% average. Corn grain harvest was 4% complete, compared with 3% last year and 6% average. Corn borer damage and stalk rot were concerns for many producers.

Soybean condition rated at 2% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 43% good, and 9% excellent. As of Sunday, 91% of the acreage was dropping leaves, ahead of 58% last year and

CROPS (Cont.)

69% average. Soybean harvest was 5% complete to date, compared with 2% last year and 14% average.

Sorghum condition rated 3% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, and 9% excellent. The crop was mature on 71% of the acreage, compared with 43% last year and 45% average. Grain harvest was 2% complete, compared with 0% last year and 4% average.

Dry beans dropping leaves progressed to 98%, compared with 99% last year. Harvest advanced to 78%, compared with 70% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 4% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 41% good and 3% excellent. Fourth cutting advanced to 41% harvested, ahead of 35% last year. Some producers won't make a fourth cutting due to lack of growth from dry conditions. A few reports indicate more corn silage will be cut to replace short hay supplies.

Winter wheat seeding progressed to 72% statewide. This is ahead of 54% last year and just behind the average of 75%. Emergence of the crop was 50%, compared with 31% last year, and 41% average. Reporters from the southwest area noted that the wheat stands were uneven due to dry conditions. The rain received should improve germination, but more rain is needed.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition benefitted from last week's rains with condition improving to 8% very poor, 20% poor, 35% fair, 36% good, and 1% excellent. Producers continued supplemental feeding last week in many areas of Nebraska. Cattle will be moved to stalks as corn harvest progresses. Mild temperatures and cool nights last week were favorable for livestock.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Mature	35	76	63	58	77	39	87	76	67	30	60	62
% Corn Harvested	5	1	2	3	3	4	8	6	4	1	3	6
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	70	90	71	90	70	89	98	91	61	58	69
% Soybeans Harvested	n/a	3	4	3	4	9	3	8	5	2	2	14
% Sorghum Mature	n/a	50	95	54	80	43	49	77	71	29	43	45
% Sorghum Harvested	n/a	0	0	2	1	2	1	3	2	n/a	0	4
% Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	98	96	96	99	n/a	99	n/a	n/a	98	91	99	n/a
% Dry Beans Harvested	85	73	42	6	n/a	68	n/a	n/a	78	67	70	n/a
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	14	47	24	52	39	51	57	59	41	28	35	n/a
% Wheat Sown	99	90	90	49	45	70	68	32	72	59	54	75
% Wheat Emerged	94	40	16	12	20	35	19	13	50	27	31	41
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1997												
Days suitable	3.5	3.8	3.0	1.6	1.7	3.1	1.2	3.3	2.8	6.7	3.3	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	1	0	0	0	8	19	11	4	14	0	
(Percent) - Short	12	16	21	1	5	45	6	17	15	38	1	
- Adequate	88	83	74	82	71	47	62	67	73	48	85	
- Surplus	0	0	5	17	24	0	13	5	8	0	14	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	3	1	2	5	0	9	20	21	7	14	0	
(Percent) - Short	18	18	47	15	29	49	22	67	35	40	4	
- Adequate	79	81	50	78	57	42	57	12	56	46	91	
- Surplus	0	0	1	2	14	0	1	0	2	0	5	

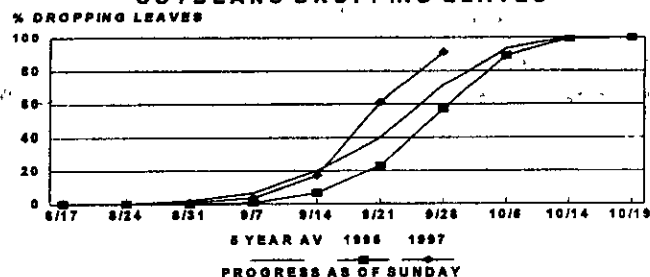
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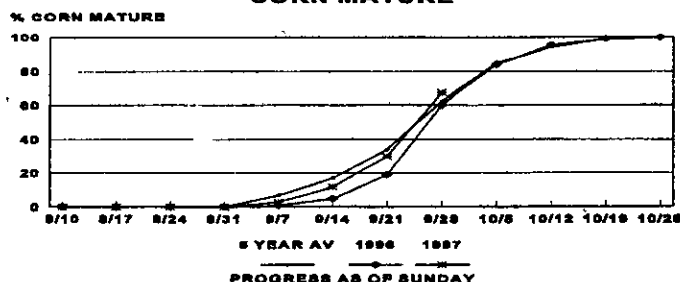
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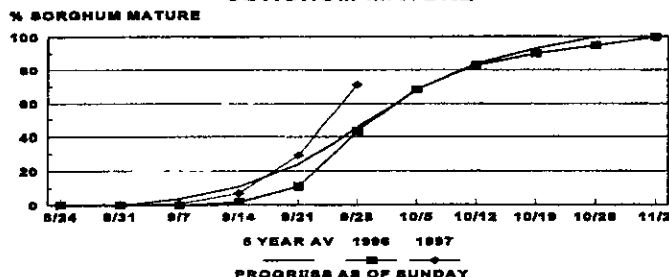
SOYBEANS DROPPING LEAVES



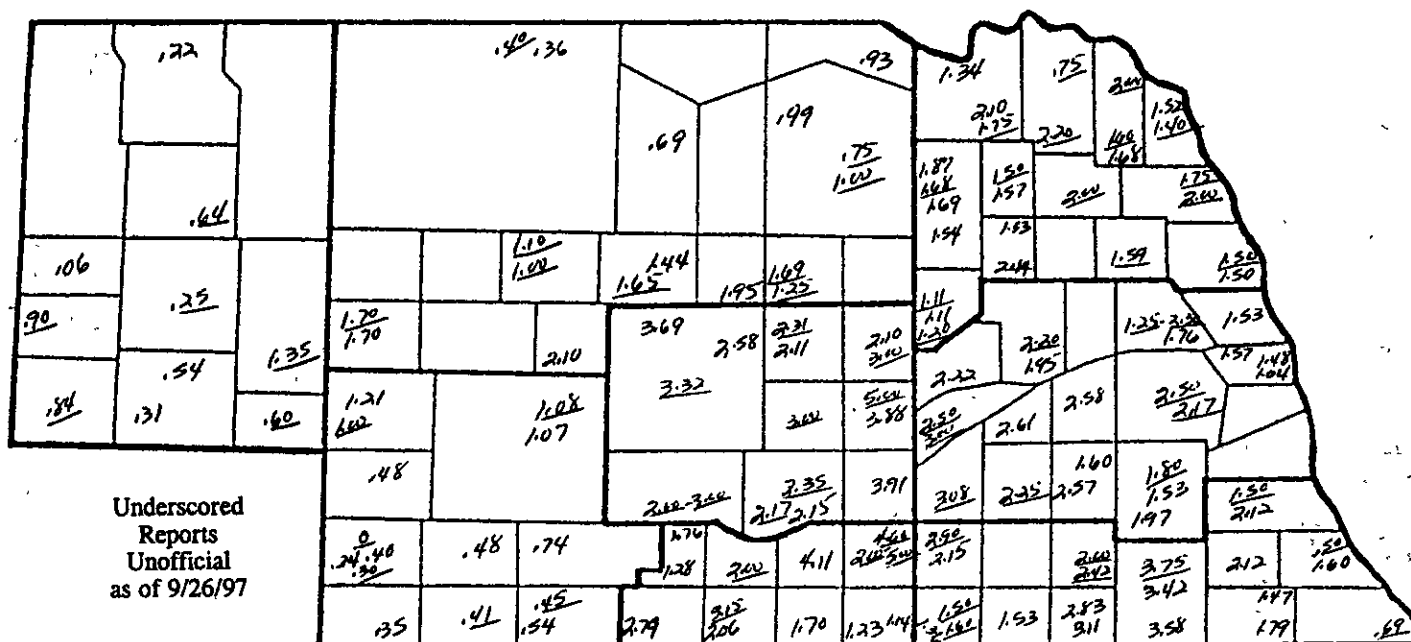
CORN MATURE



SORGHUM MATURE



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1997



Underscored
Reports
Unofficial
as of 9/26/97

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 27, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.28	1.27	1.66	2.92	1.88	.61	2.01	2.26
Total since April 1	14.68	18.28	17.36	17.51	20.38	14.62	15.46	19.79
Normal since April 1	13.07	16.53	18.90	18.36	20.98	15.15	18.47	21.68
Total as % of normal	112%	111%	92%	95%	97%	97%	84%	91%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1997

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1997									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	89	38	58	---	.22	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	84	41	56	-2	.06	2525	2585	2537
	Sidney	87	43	56	---	.31	2502	2562	2524
NC	Valentine	92	42	58	0	.36	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	2515	2574	2723
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	2624	2701	2879
NE	Norfolk	86	36	59	-1	1.53	---	---	---
	Sioux City	87	32	59	-1	1.52	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2624	2707	2918
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2646	2717	2912
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2743	2829	3046
CEN	Grand Island	87	48	60	-1	3.91	2757	2833	3012
	Ord	85	38	58	---	2.11	2672	2739	2965
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	2802	2876	2991
EC	Lincoln	84	43	62	0	1.53	3025	3123	3293
	Omaha	84	41	61	-1	1.48	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2734	2813	3035
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2894	2989	3196
SW	Imperial	91	42	59	---	.40	---	---	---
	North Platte	87	37	56	-3	1.07	2673	2741	2798
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2905	2983	2874
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2779	2855	2974
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	3066	3174	2987
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2888	2981	3290
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2806	2889	3028

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.